

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-14 and 21-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1, 5 and 10 are amended, claims 21-22 are added, and claims 11 and 15-20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Various amendments are made for clarity and are unrelated to issues of patentability.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) by U.S. Patent 4,421,968 to Osepchuk in view of U.S. Patent 5,919,391 to Jun and U.S. Patent 4,751,357 to Boulard. The rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the remaining claims.

Independent claim 1 recites a cavity for accommodating food to be cooked (of which at least one side defining an opening), a door for shielding the opening selectively, a magnetron disposed at an outside of the cavity (for generating microwave), a waveguide for guiding the generated microwave into the cavity, a stirrer fan disposed at an outlet of the waveguide (for scattering the microwave guided by the waveguide), a motor fixed at an outside of the waveguide and having a shaft connected with the stirrer fan, a screw covering part formed by modifying a portion of the waveguide to accommodate a motor fixing screw, a convergence preventing part formed at a portion of the cavity (the convergence preventing part having a shape corresponding to the screw covering part and provided at a location corresponding to the screw covering part), and an elevated portion formed by modifying a portion of the cavity (for uniformly distributing the microwave scattered by the stirrer fan).

The applied references do not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 1. More specifically, Osepchuk disclose an oven 10 having an enclosure 12, a door 14 for

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opening/closing the enclosure 12, a waveguide 18 for feeding microwave supplied by a magnetron 16, a conductor 20 extending through an aperture 22 in a lower wall of the waveguide 18 and the upper wall 24 of the enclosure 12, a motor 26 attached at the upper end of conductor 20, a dielectric coupling member 28 coupled to the motor 26 through an aperture in the upper surface of the waveguide 18, and a probe 30 through the waveguide 18 and the conductor 20 into enclosure 12. Osepchuk does not teach or suggest a screw covering part, a convergence preventing part and an elevated portion, as recited in independent claim 1.

Jun discloses a first arcuate concave portion 182 and a second arcuate concave portion 184. Jun does not teach or suggest a screw covering part formed by modifying a portion of the waveguide to accommodate a motor fixing screw and a convergence preventing part having a shape corresponding to the screw covering part and provided at a location corresponding to the screw covering part, as recited in independent claim 1.

Boulard discloses an endless screw 9 that is itself fixed to an enclosure 1. Boulard does not teach or suggest a screw covering part to accommodate a motor fixing screw, and a convergence preventing part having a shape corresponding to the screw covering part and provided at a location corresponding to the screw covering part, as recited in independent claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Osepchuk, Jun and Boulard do not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 1. Thus, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter.

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Independent claim 10 recites a magnetron disposed at an outside of a cavity (for generating microwave), a waveguide for guiding the generated microwave into the cavity, a stirrer fan disposed at an outlet of the waveguide (for scattering the microwave guided by waveguide), a motor fixed at an outside of the waveguide and having a shaft connected with the stirrer fan, and a convergence preventing part provided at a nearby position of the motor, the convergence preventing part being recessed toward an inside of the cavity. Independent claim 10 also recites that the waveguide is modified to form a screw covering part at a position where the motor is fixed, and the convergence preventing part is formed to have a shape corresponding to the screw covering part and being provided at a location corresponding to the screw covering part.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, Osepchuk, Jun and Boulard do not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 10. More specifically, Osepchuk, Jun and Boulard do not teach or suggest a convergence preventing part provided at a nearby position of the motor, the convergence preventing part being recessed toward an inside of the cavity, wherein the waveguide is modified to form a screw covering part at a position where the motor is fixed, and the convergence preventing part is formed to have a shape corresponding to the screw covering part and being provided at a location corresponding to the screw covering part. Thus, independent claim 10 defines patentable subject matter.

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of independent claims 1 and 10 define patentable subject matter. Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the

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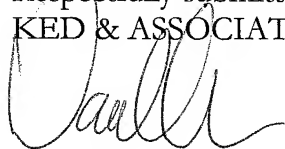
dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-10, 12-14 and 21-22 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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